

Efficient and Effective VE in a Large Organization

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Abstract

As the VE Program Manager in one of the world's largest transportation organizations, it is imperative that the VE Program be not only run efficiently, but also perform as effectively as possible. This year marks the 40th anniversary of performing VE studies within the Department. Over those 40 years, VE has evolved from a "Cost Cutting" tool to a "Project Delivery" tool. In today's economic environment, VE is becoming the "Tool of Choice" for project managers to deliver their projects on-time and on-budget.

The Keynote address will focus how to effectively use the VE process to achieve the goals and results project managers can embrace. The California Department of Transportation was instrumental in developing the true "Value" of a VE study. Our developments of the Performance Attributes and Performance Measurements allows the team members to focus their efforts on alternatives that can not only cut cost, but increase the performance of the project to meet the stakeholder's needs. With well-defined performance attributes, valid performance improvements can be identified in conjunction with cost savings. The results from years of application will be discussed and presented in support of this approach. After many years of development, these VE requirements have also been adopted as common practice in the United States.

In addition to these enhancements, the keynote will also address best practices and lessons learned from our years of experience. Other common practices will be discussed and presented to support effective use of the VE process.